

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

January 1990

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

NEW MEXICO Southeast

NMZ027	Guadalupe Mountains Of Eddy County	02 0400MST 1100MST			0	0			Heavy Snow
An strong upper level storm moving to the southeast through western New Mexico and Far West Texas supplied the lift to cause heavy snows over the higher terrain of the region. Six inches of snow fell at Queen.									
NMZ029	Lea	17 0000MST 1800MST			0	0	25K		High Wind (G57)
Poles and large trees blown down in Hobbs plus other scattered property damage around town. Winds were recorded at 65 mph in town. In Lovington, six poles were knocked down and part of a porch was thrown about 50 feet.									
NMZ028	Eddy County Plains	17 1030MST 1800MST			0	0	16K		High Wind (G63)
Winds recorded at 68 and 73 mph on anemometers in Carlsbad Poles were damaged and some lines snapped. Also a vehicle sustained damage at Carlsbad Caverns.									

TEXAS West

TXZ057	Van Horn And Salt Flat Basin	02 0500CST 0000CST			0	0			Heavy Snow
Three to six inches of snow fell in and around the city of Van Horn and five inches fell at Guadalupe Pass from an upper level storm system that moved southeastward through southwestern New Mexico and Far West Texas.									
TXZ074	Davis Mountain Area	02 0530CST 1300CST			0	0			Heavy Snow
Up to 6 inches of snow fell at some of the ranches in the Davis Mountains with 2-3 inches being reported in the city of Fort Davis.									
TXZ062	Midland	17 0000CST 1900CST			0	0			High Wind (G52)
The lowest visibility of 3/4 mile was at 1620-1630 CST. The peak wind of 60 mph occurred at 1236 pm CST.									
Across much of the region brief light rain showers were occurring. Combined with the blowing dust, the rain became mud showers. It rained only enough to allow dirt to adhere to vehicles. For weeks muddy cars could be seen driving around the region due to excessively long lines at commercial car washes. A manager at a Midland car wash said that the first week after the mud storm was his busiest on record, more than tripling his usual business. He said that business would have been even better, except that people decided not to wait in the long lines. This same scenario was played out across much of the Permian Basin.									
TXZ050	Andrews	17 0020CST			0	0			High Wind (G79)
Recorded at the Andrews County Airport.									
TXZ057	Van Horn And Salt Flat Basin	17 0930MST 2300MST			0	0	250K		High Wind (G111)
A wind event for the history books occurred with a peak wind gust of 128 mph at Guadalupe Pass. The sustained wind was hurricane force from about 1000 am until about 300 pm with a maximum sustained wind of 105 mph. Although the Pass is famous for wind events elderly ranchers in the area said they had never seen the wind blow so hard. The highest winds and most damage occurred in the mountainous zones, however strong to damaging winds occurred over most of the warning area.									
During the late morning much of the damage occurred in the mountainous areas, with the most substantial damage near Guadalupe Pass. A list of the more significant reports follows.									
At Guadalupe Mountains National Park about 20 vehicles sustained damage such as broken windows and paint being chipped off by blowing rocks. One stationary step van was overturned in a parking lot. The wind also ripped out over 100 feet of chainlink fence and threw picnic tables across campgrounds.									
On U.S. Highway 62/180 a double trailer truck was overturned at 1334 MST. Across the highway at a Department of Transportation facility a roof was blown off one building. During the event a coordination call to the site found an obviously shaken gentleman in fear that the roof of his building might give way to the wind at any moment. A series of power generating wind turbines located in a north south line south of the pass sustained damage as well.									

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January 1996

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TEXAS West

Farther south, in southwestern Culberson County, a fatal vehicle accident occurred in the eastbound lane of I-10, 14 miles east of Van Horn at 1550 CST. the mishap was partially blamed on the low visibilities in the area. A 56 year old South Carolina man was killed when he drove his car into a parked trailer truck which had just been involved in an accident. The Department of Public Safety report stated that visibilities were ranging between 20 feet and 1/4 mile with a visibility of 50 feet being common during the clean up of the accident.

TXZ074	Davis Mountain Area	17	1100CST		0	0	47K		High Wind (G66)
			1600CST						

Wind gust recorded at McDonald Observatory. Damage in the area included two roofs being blown off near Alpine and part of a roof being blown off a house 10 miles southwest of Fort Davis. In Fort Davis fences were blown down and storage buildings blown over.

TXZ058	Reeves County And Upper Trans Pecos	17	1149CST		0	0	5K		High Wind
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A travel trailer was blown over by strong cross winds on U.S. Highway 285 5 miles northwest of Orla.

TXZ045	Gaines	17	1300CST		0	0			High Wind (G59)
	Recorded at the Gaines County Airport.								

TXZ080	Marfa Plateau	17	1430CST		0	0			High Wind (G64)
	Recorded at the Aerostat site ...19 miles west of Marfa.								

TXZ080	Marfa Plateau	17	1450CST		0	0			High Wind (G55)
	Recorded at the Marfa Airport.								

TXZ060	Winkler	17	1500CST		0	0	35K		High Wind (G61)
			1830CST						

A 300-foot tall light stanchion crashed to the ground at the Wink Football Stadium At 1727 CST the peak wind gust of 70 mph occurred at the Winkler County Airport and the visibility was reduced to 3/4 mile from 1509-1640 CST. In Kermit poles were blown down around town.

TXZ058	Reeves County And Upper Trans Pecos	17	1630CST		0	0	35K		High Wind
			1730CST						

An 80-foot pole holding an Exxon sign at the associated service station in Pecos broke at a joint during high winds and leaned precariously, but did not fall. Also during the height of the winds, travel trailers were blown over, shingles were taken off roofs, power poles were broken, etc. Four car mishaps were blamed partly on the low visibilities during the high winds. At Balmorhea, a carport collapsed on a car.

TXZ067	Ward	17	1700CST		0	0	10K		High Wind (G70)
			1830CST						

A bank sign was damaged and numerous poles were downed in Monahans.

TXZ052	Howard	17	1900CST		0	0	10K		High Wind
			2000CST						

Windows were blown out of some homes and a carport was blown out into the street in Big Spring.